

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

#### **Dear NHTI Community,**

As we reflect on our first year of growth, we are thrilled to share the strides we've made in enhancing educational opportunities for students across New Haven.

This year has been a journey of expanding our reach, deepening our impact, and fostering a love for learning among our students.

Thanks to the effort of our volunteers, and partners, and the support from the City of New Haven, we have successfully implemented programs that not only address academic challenges but also inspire a lifelong passion for reading and math.

We are excited about the future and remain committed to our mission of empowering students to succeed in school. Together, we are making a difference!

Kirsten, Ron, and Shelly NHTI Leadership



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# What is NHTI Collaboration to Close the Gaps

In 2022, district data revealed that 84 percent of New Haven third graders were reading below grade level, and 88 percent were below grade level in math. Recognizing the urgency of these challenges, NHTI was established as a collaborative initiative to help address this crisis by embedding reading and math tutoring within existing K-8 summer and afterschool programs across New Haven.

#### **Purpose of NHTI**

NHTI's goal is to provide students with targeted academic support that complements regular classroom instruction, helping bridge the learning gaps exacerbated by the pandemic. By placing tutoring services within community programs, NHTI offers accessible, year-round academic reinforcement for students.

#### **Commitment to Community**

NHTI prioritizes partnerships with local community after-school organizations in New Haven's most affected by disrupted learning. This approach not only ensures that tutoring services are accessible but also empowers local organizations to be a part of the solution, fostering educational resilience in these communities.

#### **Capacity-Building**

NHTI is committed to building the

capacity of a diverse set of community organizations to provide high-quality tutoring through two distinct program models, thereby expanding their ability to support K-8 students citywide.

#### **Tutoring Models**

This structured 1:1 or small group approach allows students to learn foundational skills in reading or math, guided by trained staff or community volunteers. Progress is tracked through assessments to ensure measurable growth, and grants are awarded based on the number of students served.

#### **Infusion Model**

Designed as a flexible, group-based approach, the Infusion Model emphasizes peer learning through activities such as read-alouds, independent reading, math games, and problem-solving exercises. This model does not require assessments, allowing for a more fluid integration of learning activities. Eligible organizations receive \$2,000 in grants along with supplies to support program implementation.

By providing academic support for students and empowering families and community members, NHTI works toward closing critical learning gaps and fostering a culture of learning in New Haven's youth.

## Volumbeer Help Shape a Child's Future



Join the New Haven Tutoring Initiative to support local students in improving their reading and math skills. No experience needed—just a passion for helping kids succeed. Sign up now to make a lasting impact!



Since June 2023, the NHTI program has seen the involvement of 21 partner organizations, enabling 503 volunteers to contribute an impressive 11,594 tutoring hours. This collective effort has supported 2,825 students in their academic journeys, demonstrating the program's wide-reaching community impact.



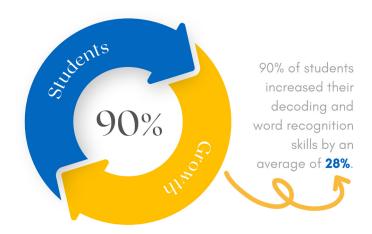
Visit uwgnh.org/Tutoring to learn more about the New Haven Tutoring Initiative and see how you can get involved. Whether you're interested in volunteering, exploring resources, or understanding the impact on students' lives, your participation can help shape brighter futures. Scan the QR code to get started today!



#### **Student Outcomes**

#### Reading Skills Improvement

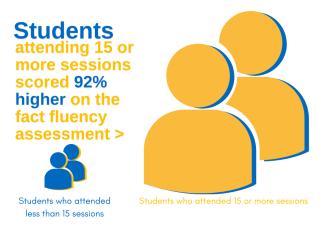
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Throughout the year, significant progress was observed in students' reading skills, with 90% of participants increasing their decoding and word recognition abilities by an average of 23%. This growth was even more pronounced among students with high attendance—those who attended 90% or more of their tutoring sessions saw an average improvement of 28%. The data highlights the powerful impact of consistent participation in the program, showcasing how focused instruction can substantially boost foundational reading skills.

#### **Student Outcomes**

#### Math Skills Improvement



Math skills showed marked improvement over the year, with 92% of students boosting their fact fluency by an average of 22%. Students who attended 15 or more tutoring sessions in the Spring saw even greater results, scoring 92% higher on fact fluency assessments compared to peers with fewer sessions. Regular assessments, administered throughout the year in September, December, and May, further underscored the positive relationship between hours tutored and overall math advancement, demonstrating that consistent practice and engagement yield the greatest gains.

#### **Omar's Insights**

#### Omar Yacoub: Driving Change at IRIS

Omar Yacoub, the Manager of Youth Education Programs at IRIS, has witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of the New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) on the students and families in the community. During a recent interview, Omar said NHTI has been instrumental in providing essential academic support to immigrant and refugee youth, ensuring that they have equal access to math and reading resources.

"The partnership with NHTI has been a game changer for our students," Omar said. "Not only does the program offer critical academic assistance, but it also fosters a sense of belonging and community among the families we serve. It directly addresses the unique challenges faced by our students, helping them build confidence and achieve success in their



studies.

He highlighted specific successes among students at IRIS, noting increased participation in classes and improved academic performance. "Seeing students who once struggled now excel in their studies is incredibly rewarding. NHTI's dedication to creating personalized learning experiences is making a significant difference in the lives of these young learners," Omar shared.

#### **Community Care**

#### Denim's Reading Transformation

Denim, a fourth-grader at Edgewood in New Haven, has made incredible progress through the New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) partner program at Upon This Rock Academy. When he started, Denim was reading below a first-grade level. Thanks to his dedicated tutor Chaz, he now tests at grade level due to his hard work at school and during tutoring sessions.

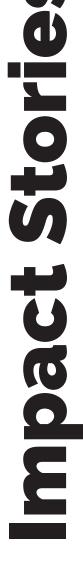
Chaz's support helped Denim develop a love for reading and build confidence, especially after the learning setbacks from the pandemic.

"Denim's ability to encode and decode words has greatly improved," Chaz says. "His excitement for learning has grown, and his confidence has taken off."

The training and support from New Haven



Reads and Upon this Rock Academy - brought together by the New Haven Tutoring Initiative - has been instrumental in Denim's progress, providing the support and consistent tutoring he needed to succeed. "I like reading now, and my favorite book is 'Breathe," says Denim.





# artner



#### **Overview**

The New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) thrives through collaboration with NHTI Lead Partners, Tutoring Partners, the City of New Haven, New Haven Board of Alders, New Haven Public Schools, and other citywide collaborators, each playing a pivotal role in ensuring quality tutoring and community engagement.

#### **NHTI Lead Partners**

United Way of Greater New Haven New Haven Counts New Haven Reads LEAP

NHTI's Lead Partners oversee the grant process, including issuing funding opportunities, managing program funds, and coordinating recruitment, onboarding, and training for tutors and staff. They facilitate coaching and program meetings, manage program data, and handle logistics such as purchasing instructional materials and assessment licenses. Additionally, they organize partner meetings, evaluate program impact, and host community-wide events to foster a love of learning.

NHTI partners with New Haven Public Schools (NHPS), the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, and Yale University to align with citywide educational goals and expand resources. NHTI would also not be possible without the strong support of the New Haven Board of Alders.

Lead Literacy and Math Partners ensure students in grades K-8 receive high-quality, research-based instruction through after-school and summer programs. Students attend at least two one-hour sessions weekly, with a mix of 1:1 and group-based tutoring tailored to their diverse needs, promoting both academic growth







**Music Haven:** Free music lessons for youth to foster growth and confidence.

**Horizons**: Summer program preventing learning loss through enrichment.

**New Haven YMCA Youth Center:** Programs promoting youth development and healthy living.

**Upon This Rock Academy:** Faith-centered academic and enrichment activities.

**St. Matthew's:** Community-based after-school academic support.

**Solar Youth:** Environmental education and leadership development for youth.

**Squash Haven:** Academic tutoring combined with squash for college readiness.

**CPEN**: Parent involvement network strengthening family-school connections.

## Tutoring Partners

**New Haven Counts:** Math literacy initiative offering tutoring to improve student math skills.

**New Haven Reads**: Free one-on-one literacy tutoring for reading and writing.

**LEAP**: Youth program providing academic, social, and athletic activities.

**First Step Learning Center:** Early childhood center focused on quality learning experiences.

**S.P.O.R.T. Academy:** Mentorship and athletic development for young athletes.

**Bridges of Hope New Haven:** Community support for families and children in underserved areas.

**Boys & Girls Clubs GNH:** Safe, supportive environment for academic and recreational growth.

**New HYTEs:** Tennis and education program enhancing academics and physical health.

**Inspired Communities:** Community-based educational and leadership opportunities.

**Auntie Rose Day Care**: Child care center with early learning and development activities.

**Beulah Heights:** Faith-based youth programs for education and enrichment.

**IRIS**: Refugee support organization offering education and employment services.

**Little Scientists:** Hands-on early science program to inspire curiosity.

#### **Community Allies**













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#### Dear New Haven Residents,

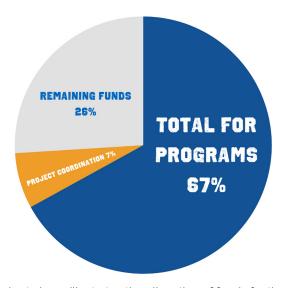
It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we celebrate all the hard work, progress and achievements of our students who have participated in the New Haven Tutoring Initiative over the past year

The collaboration between the City of New Haven, Board of Alders, New Haven Public Schools, local nonprofit organizations, and dedicated volunteers exemplifies the spirit of community and collective effort needed to ensure our students have the supports they need to thrive in school and in life. Together, we are not only addressing academic challenges, but also nurturing a brighter future for our young learners.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this vital work. Your support is truly making a tangible difference in the lives of our students and strengthening our community. Let's keep the progress going!

Justin Elicker Mayor, City of New Haven

#### **Financial Overview**



The pie chart above illustrates the allocation of funds for the New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) from June 2023 to August 2025, highlighting key spending priorities. The majority, \$1,880,465 (90%), is directed toward "Program & Training Funds," which combines resources for direct tutoring and comprehensive training in literacy and math education. This allocation underscores the initiative's focus on delivering high-quality, research-based support to students.

An additional \$208,071 (10%) is allocated for project coordination, including administration, communication, community events, and program evaluation to ensure smooth operations and effective engagement. The remaining \$911,464 is reserved for activities planned from January to August 2025, allowing for sustained program implementation and impact.